

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 02839 281348Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-02 FAA-00 INRE-00 SSO-00

SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00 MCT-01 PA-02 PRS-01 USIE-00 L-03

H-02 /064 W

-----281354Z 087758 /42

O R 281342Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9253

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

UNCLAS PARIS 02839

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FR, US

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: PRELIMINARY FRENCH REACTION TO WESTERN
AIRLINES' DECISION RE AIRBUS

1. IN REPORTING WESTERN AIRLINES' ANNOUNCEMENT JANUARY
27 AS CARRIED BY WIRE SERVICES OF DECISION NOT TO BUY
AIRBUS, FRENCH NEWS BROADCASTS JANUARY 28 AM SPECULATED
WHETHER PRESSURE BY US CONSTRUCTORS OR US GOVERNMENT
MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN BEHIND WESTERN AIRLINES' APPARENT
CHANGE OF HEART REGARDING AIRBUS. ONE COMMENTATOR
WENT SO FAR AS TO SUGGEST US REACTION TO ABOU DAOUD
AFFAIR MAY HAVE INFLUENCED THE DECISION.

2. WIRE SERVICES REPORT REACTION OF GOF SECSTATE OF
TRANSPORTATION CAVAILLE IN RADIO INTERVIEW. HE WAS, OF
COURSE, GREATLY DISAPPOINTED BY DECISION. HE FOUND UN-
CONVINCING THE ARGUMENTS CITED BY WESTERN AIR-
LINES TO JUSTIFY ITS DECISION (I.E., GREATER COMPATABI-
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LITY OF US EQUIPMENT WITH ITS PRESENT FLEET AND ITS LONG-
TERM PLANS), WHICH LED HIM TO WONDER WHETHER DECISION
HAD NOT BEEN INFLUENCED BY POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. HE
DID NOT DEVELOP HIS THOUGHTS FURTHER.

3. IF QUERIED BY PRESS, WE WILL CONFESS TO SURPRISE OVER
REPORT OF WESTERN AIRLINES' DECISION (E.G., FOLLOWING

SPATE OF RECENT REPORTS IN FRENCH AND US PRESS THAT
WESTERN AIRLINES WAS LEANING STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF
AIRBUS). WE WILL ADD THAT WE HAVE NO REASON, HOWEVER,
BELIEVE DECISION WAS OTHER THAN A CORPORATE ONE DICTATED
SOLELY BY MANAGEMENT'S OWN DETERMINATION OF WHAT WOULD
BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMPANY.
GAMMON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
Film Number: D770031-0647
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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TAGS: EAIR, FR, US, WESTERN AIRLINES
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Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c6f15cdd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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